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AUTHORITY

AGO, D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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(1)

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAM-P (M) (3 Feb 67) FOR OT

6 February 1967

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AD829
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SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, HQ 2d Surgical Hospital (Mobile Army)

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Forwarded as inclosure is Operational Report - Lessons Learned Headquarters, 2d Surgical Hospital (Mobile Army) for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October 1966. Information contained in this report should be reviewed and evaluated by CDC in accordance with paragraph 6f of AR 1-19 and by CONARC in accordance with paragraph 6c and d of AR 1-19. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to the Commandants of the Service Schools to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations, and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

1 Incl
a/s

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AVCA-MB-GB-SA

6 November 1966

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period
Ending 31 October 1966 (RCS CSFOR-65) (U)

SECTION I

SIGNIFICANT ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

During the reporting period much progress was made toward completing the hospital compound. Major items completed were: Transition from dirt floors to cement pads in the billeting area using the self help program; showers for enlisted personnel, sandbag protection for both patients and assigned personnel. Construction well underway but not yet completed includes covered walkways throughout the hospital area, and a hot water system for entire hospital area.

The base Development Planning Board has approved plans for a permanent type billeting complex for hospital personnel. Present plans provide for female BOQ's, Field Grade and Company Grade BOQ, NCO and lower grade quarters and other related buildings. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin 1 December 1966.

During the quarter, the hospital admitted for definitive treatment 558 military personnel, two (2) Red Cross employees, one (1) American civilian employee, sixty (60) Vietnamese civilians, nine (9) Vietnamese military personnel, three (3) ROK military personnel and one (1) Viet Cong POW.

At 2230 hours, 3 September 1966, the 1st Air Cavalry Base Camp here at An Khe, RVN, experienced another major mortar attack from hostile forces which lasted approximately 30 minutes. Numerous casualties resulted from the action, most of which were the results of mortar fragments. There was a total of twenty-six (26) of the more seriously injured admitted to this facility.

Communication is a continuing problem. Telephone service has proven inadequate. Efficient patient evacuation is often hampered because of the inability to communicate with medical regulating officer at higher headquarters. Effort is being made to obtain radio communication which we hope will alleviate the problem.

During this reporting period, a significant change of personnel was made within the unit. Key changes were as follows:

Major Anthony Ballard, MC	CO
Major Horace W. Gaines, MSC	XO
Major Alcide Lanous, MC	Chief of Prof Svc
Major Muriel J. McCausland, ANC	Chief, Nurse
CPT Albert F. Peters, MC	Chief of Surgery
1SG Donald G. Carmier	1SG

In addition to key changes above, all assigned MC and ANC personnel, plus NCO section chiefs have reported to this organization within the past 60 days.

Inclosure 1

AVGA-MB-GB-SA

6 November 1966

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period
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The medical and nursing personnel at this hospital have volunteered much of their off duty time to provide technical assistance to the An Khe civilian dispensary. Presently, the staff is serving as consultants on cases referred from the dispensary. Emergency as well as some elective surgical care has been provided by the staff of this facility.

UP Para 7, SC 246, Hq USASC Saigon, APO San Francisco 96307, dated 27 October 1966, the 20th Preventive Medical Detachment was attached to this Headquarters for rations, quarters and administration. The detachment consists of one (1) officer and eleven (11) enlisted men. The mission of the 20th Medical Detachment is provide preventive medical support to the US Military personnel in an area between 17° north to 13° south in South Vietnam.

Peace Chapel was dedicated 22 September 1966. A copy of the history of the chapel is attached as inclosure #1.

SECTION II - COMMANDER's OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Part 1 Observations (Lessons Learned)

STAFF ASSIGNMENTS

ITEM: Between 15 Sep 66 and 15 Oct 66, the unit underwent a complete turnover of officers and NCO's.

DISCUSSION: When a unit undergoes such a turn-over of personnel, it results in unnecessary delay to reach operational effectiveness. To insure continuity in efficiency, a concerted effort should be made to integrate new staffs with theater oriented personnel.

CONTROL OF BLOOD DONORS

ITEM: At 1600 hours 4 October 1966, a CV 2 plane crashed within the perimeter of Camp Radcliff with 32 persons aboard. Nineteen casualties were admitted to this facility.

DISCUSSION: Because of the nature of the accident, several patients have massive hemorrhage. This rapidly depleted our banked blood supply. A request for blood donors was issued by the base radio station. Hundreds answered the request. Our laboratory facilities were inadequate to handle that size group.

OBSERVATION: Telephone requests to units will better regulate the flow of donors in such an emergency.

PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION

ITEM: TO&E 8-571E, surgical hospital does not provide the proper number

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6 November 1966

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of administrative enlisted personnel to function efficiently in this theater.

DISCUSSION: It has been determined that the following minimum requirements for augmentation of hospital headquarters exist:

a. Hq Section: The increased administrative workload in the Hq section requires the addition of one clerk typist, grade E4, MOS 71B10.

b. Registrar Section: This is the most improperly staffed section in the hospital. Suitable for operation in a stateside training atmosphere, the efficient operation of the section in a wartime, 24 hour day atmosphere requires the addition of three (3) Medical Records Clerks, grade E4 MOS 71G20.

Part 2 Recommendations

Personnel: a review of TO&E for surgical operating in RVN be made and consideration be given to augment same with sufficient personnel to function efficiently.

ANTHONY BALLARD
Major, MC
Commanding

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1 - Commander-in Chief, USARPAC
ATTN: GPOP-MH, APO 96558 (Direct)

3 - Commanding General, USARV
ATTN: AVC-DH, APO 96307 (Direct)

1 - Commanding General, USASUPCOM, Qui Nhon
ATTN: Historian, APO 96238 (Direct)

1 - Commanding Officer, 34th S&S Bn
ATTN: S-1, APO 96294 (Direct)

5
AVCA-MB-GB-B (6 November 1966) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period
Ending 31 October 1966 (RCS CSFOR-65)(U)

Headquarters, 55th Medical Group, APO 96238, 11 November 1966

THRU: Commanding Officer, 44th Medical Brigade, ATTN: Historian,
APO 96307

Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVLC GO-H,
APO 96307

Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, ATTN: AVC-DH,
APO 96307

Commander-in-Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-MH,
APO 96307

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development
Department of the Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

I concur generally in the observations and recommendations submitted by the Commanding Officer, 2d Surgical Hospital. Both of the major problem areas reiterated in his report, poor telephone communications in Viet Nam, and the desirability of effective reorganization of medical units, were submitted as recommendations by this headquarters in its Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1966.

TEL: QN 679

Robert H. Holzworth
ROBERT H. HOLZWORTH
Lieutenant Colonel, MC
Acting Commander

1 Incl Wd at HQ DA
~~Brochure, "The Miracle of
Peace Chapel", CH (MAJ) Leo Peacock~~

AVCA-MB-PO (6 Nov 66)

2nd Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period
Ending 31 October 1966 (RCS CSFOR-65) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, 44th Medical Brigade, APO 96307, 24 November 1966

TO: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA-GO-0, APO 96307

1. The 2nd Surgical Hospital was operational during the entire report period.

2. Reference Section II, Part I, Item 1, basic report. Many units are faced with a mass exodus and replacement after a year in country. Shifting of personnel between units is done to some extent to distribute the time of rotation. To reduce this problem to 50% requires at least 24 months to avoid interruption of any unit's operation.

3. Reference Section II, Part I, Item 3, and Part II, basic report. The requirement of this unit for additional clerical personnel is reflected in every unit in this command. It is the result of a large administrative load, disproportionate to a combat zone. True enough, the basic TOE of the surgical hospital is inadequate to accommodate more than essential operational requirements. Unit has been instructed to submit a MTOE for the additional requirements. Units are required to maintain stateside administrative procedures, with a staff geared strictly for field operations.

4. Concur with all other comments of the hospital commander, and those comments contained in 1st Indorsement.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Lynx 898



RICHARD M. HERIOT

Major, MSC

Adjutant

7
AVCA GO-0 (6 Nov 66)

3d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 October
1966 (RCS CSFQR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, 1st Logistical Command, APO 96307 → 1 DEC 1966

TO: Deputy Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DH, APO 96307

1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by the 2d
MASH for the quarter ending 31 July 1966 is forwarded herewith.

2. Concur with the basic report as modified by the comments contained
in the preceding endorsements. The report is considered adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: Lynx 782

GLENN A. DOYLE
Capt., AGC
Asst. AG

7

AVHGC-1M (6 Nov 66)

4th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending
31 October 1966 (RCS CSFOR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96307 11 DEC 1966

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPO-OT
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operation Report-Lessons Learned from Headquarters 2d Surgical Hospital (Mobile Army) for the period ending 31 October 1966.

2. Concur with the basic report as modified by the previous endorsements.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



K. D. HAMILTON
Lt Col, AGC
Asst Adjutant General

1 Incl
nc

9

GPOP-OT (6 Nov 66)

5th Ind

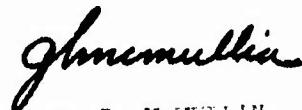
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending
31 October 1966

HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558 14 JAN 1967

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in the basic report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



1 Incl
nc

G. L. McMULLIN
CPT, AGC
Asst AG